

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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54

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W
----- 117787

R 131358Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4361
INFO USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS CARACAS 9820

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, VE

SUBJ: IVP SULFRIC ACID PLANTS

REF: (1) CARACAS 8983, (2) STATE 191059

1. IN THE COURSE OF EMBASSY INQUIRY RELATIVE TO REF 2, IVP ADVISED THAT TENDER PREQUALIFICATION (REF 1) IS LIMITED TO NATIONAL FIRMS. THIS CONDITION WAS NOT STATED IN PUBLISHED PREQUALIFICATION NOTICE.
2. EMBASSY WILL ADVISE DEPARTMENT AND USDOC WHEN IDENTITIES OF PREQUALIFIED VENEZUELAN FIRMS ARE KNOWN.
3. IVP'S INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT THAT TWO NEW SULFURIC ACID PLANTS (NUMBERS TWO AND THREE) ARE FOR THE "RECONDITIONING" OF IVP'S FERTILIZER AND EXPLOSIVES COMPLEXES IS IN FACT, NOT ACCURATE. ADDITIONAL SULFURIC ACID REQUIREMENTS DERIVE FROM THE NEED FOR EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS FEEDSTOCK, FOR A PLANT NOT YET IN OPERATION, AND FOR AMPLIFICATION OF FERTILIZER PRODUCTION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH A PHOSPHATE ROCK MINING EXPANSION, AND A PLANT TO PRODUCE AMMONIUM SULFATE. THESE PROJECTS WERE OFFICIALY AUTHORIZED AND INITIALLY UNDERTAKEN SOME TIME AGO, EMBASSY INFERS THAT IVP'S USE OF TH WORD "RECONDITIONING" RELATES TO THE FACT THAT IVP IS OPERATING UNDER A MANDATE WHICH PROHIBITS "NEW" INVESTMENT.
4. EMBASSY APPRECIATES THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION LACKS PRECISION, BUT IVP'S SOMEWHAT CONVULTED ORGANIZATION AND LACK OF

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ENTHUSIASM IN RESPONDING TO OUTSIDE INQUIRIES MAKES EXTRACTION

OF HARD INFORMATION PROBLEMATIC, AT BEST.

VAKY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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